

splash!

quick facts on...

Pre-Rinse Spray Valves

JANUARY 2009

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts.

Our Mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems, and water supply.

Pre-rinse spray valves are used by restaurants to remove leftover food and grease from dinnerware before it is placed in a dishwasher. These devices can consume more water than the dishwashers themselves.

Water Savings

A conventional spray valve uses between 2 and 6 gallons of water per minute. Low-flow sprayers use as little as 1.2 gallons per minute. Consider the water saving estimates in the table below.



Hours of Spray Valve Usage	Water Savings gallons/day	Wastewater Savings gallons/day	Gas Savings therms/day	Annual Dollar Savings
1 hour/day	60 gallons	60 gallons	0.5 therms	\$300 - \$350
2 hours/day	120 gallons	120 gallons	1.0 therms	\$600 - \$700
3 hours/day	180 gallons	180 gallons	1.5 therms	\$900 - \$1050

Installation Costs

Pre-rinse spray valve programs are among the most cost-efficient water conservation measures, yielding relatively high water savings for typically small investments. The cost of a low-flow pre-rinse spray valve may range from \$35 to more than \$100, with negligible installation costs as no special training is required. Using estimated water savings from the table above, a \$50 pre-rinse spray valve replacement in a small restaurant may pay for itself in as little as three months.

To illustrate the potential savings consider the results of the California-based Rinse and Save program. That program replaced 16,896 conventional spray valves with low-flow spray models at 13,000 sites throughout the state. The reported results revealed an average water savings of 137 gallons per day, or 50,000 gallons per year per valve with an estimated total of 250,000 gallons over the life of the products.

How the South Florida Water Management District Can Help

Through the Water Savings Incentive Program (WaterSIP), the South Florida Water Management District provides matching funds up to \$75,000 to water providers and users for installing water-saving technologies, such as high-efficiency plumbing fixtures, rain and soil moisture sensors and fire hydrant flushing devices. Potential applicants include cities, public utilities and water providers, homeowners associations, schools, hospitals and industrial/commercial facilities. Individual residences are not eligible.

Since its inception in 2003, WaterSIP has allocated more than \$3.4 million to dozens of public and private entities across the District's 16 counties, resulting in an estimated water savings of more than 2.1 billion gallons per year. The program is based

on cost-sharing. Entities seeking funding must be able to match at least 50 percent of the total costs for the project, either with matching funds or in-kind services. Up to 100 percent funding is available to Rural Economic Development Initiative communities.

Applications for WaterSIP are posted annually in February. Check the WaterSIP Web site for details on the program and application process. To learn more about WaterSIP, please contact Robert Wanvestraut, SFWMD Senior Conservation Officer, at rwanvest@sfwmd.gov or 561-682-2054. You may also visit us online at www.sfwmd.gov. Choose Water Conservation at the left of the screen, next click "What We're Doing" and then select **WaterSIP Program – Find out more.**



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SERVICE CENTERS

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 239-263-7615
 Broward
 954-713-3200
 Florida Keys (Plantation Key)
 305-853-3219 or 800-464-5067
 Lower West Coast
 239-338-2929 or 800-248-1201

Martin/St. Lucie
 772-223-2600 or 800-250-4100
 Miami-Dade
 305-377-7274 or 800-250-4300
 Okeechobee
 863-462-5260 or 800-250-4200
 Orlando
 407-858-6100 or 800-250-4250
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